

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

February 24, 2023

The Honorable Louis DeJoy  
Postmaster General  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10300  
Washington, DC 20260-1000

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

I write requesting the United States Postal Service (USPS) restore the unique, individual ZIP Code of 81249 for the Town of Silver Cliff, Colorado. An unincorporated town in Custer County, Colorado, Silver Cliff lost its dedicated ZIP Code in 1991. In the years since, Silver Cliff has been sharing its ZIP Code with the town of Westcliffe, despite being slightly more populous than its neighbor. This move has cost Silver Cliff nearly \$750,000 in sales tax revenue over the past thirty years.

On January 24, 2023, I wrote to you regarding extensive delivery delays and subpar postal services in Buena Vista and Chaffee County. Since I sent that letter, hundreds of constituents have contacted my office with complaints about postal service in their area, including multiple residents of Silver Cliff. In addition to receiving mail at a reduced frequency, many Silver Cliff residents report constantly receiving mail meant for citizens who live at the same street address in Westcliffe, because the two towns share a ZIP Code.

Residents of the mountainous, rural southern region of my district rely on USPS for prescription drugs, billing notices, food, clothing, and other necessary items. USPS should be a lifeline to Silver Cliff, yet USPS leadership continues to fail them, as well as many other constituents throughout Colorado's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Restoring Silver Cliff's ZIP Code would be an important step for this small community.

Thank you for giving your full and fair consideration of this request in accordance with all applicable rules, regulations, laws, and guidelines.

Sincerely,



Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress

Cc: United States Postal Service Board of Governors